

ADVENT & CHRISTMAS DEVOTIONALS

Advent and Christmas devotionals can be picked up in the sanctuary or the foyer of the Education/Office Building. Advent readings started on November 27 and Christmas readings start on December 25.

THANK YOU 2023 ANGEL TREE SPONSORS

Thank you for providing 40 children a special Christmas! Please bring your gifts in the provided bag to church by December 10 on Sunday mornings or during office hours. For questions, contact Dick Erwin (850-776-7132).

CHURCH CHRISTMAS POST OFFICE

For your convenience, from December 3-24 there will be a table at the entrance of the fellowship hall where you can drop off and pick up Christmas cards to/from people in our church family. Please mail cards for those listed as homebound on our prayer list.

CHRISTMAS CANTATA DECEMBER 10 8:00 & 10:00 AM

CHRISTMAS POTLUCK SUPPER DECEMBER 11 5:30 PM

Bring an entrée, a side dish and/or dessert that can serve 8. The Church will provide ham, beverages, plates & utensils.

CHRISTMAS EVE SUNDAY DECEMBER 24

One Morning Worship Service at 9:00 AM
No Sunday School or childcare provided.

Candlelight Communion Service at 4:00 PM

NEW YEAR'S EVE SUNDAY DECEMBER 31

One Morning Worship Service at 9:00 AM
No Sunday School or childcare provided.

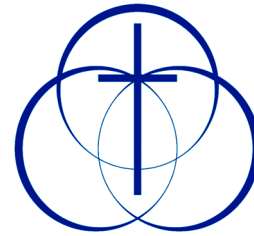
THE FOLLOWING ITEMS NEEDED . . .

Ecumenical Ministries: canned meats, soups, vegetables, fruits, grits, oatmeal, hamburger/tuna helper, mac & cheese, pancake mix, jelly, peanut butter, powdered milk, syrup, instant potatoes, brownie mix, cookie mix, Ramen noodles, hygiene and home cleaning items

Maxwell Respite Center: cleaning supplies, dish & laundry detergent, paper towels, etc. and children's and women's clothes

Aluminum Pop-Tops & Greer's Receipts: Please save and bring your aluminum pop-tops for the Ronald McDonald House and Greer's "Apples for the Students" receipts for Elberta Elementary.

Please place all items in marked receptacles in the foyer of the Education/Office building. Thanks so much for your support!



LILLIAN METHODIST CHURCH

REACHING OUT WITH GOD'S LOVE

Address: 12770 S. Perdido Street, Lillian, AL 36549

Office: office@lillianmc.org

Treasurer: treasurer@lillianmc.org

Pastor: DanielWRandall@gmail.com

Website: lillianmc.org

Office: 251-962-4336

Treasurer: 251-269-4091

Pastor: 251-234-1122



FIRST SUNDAY OF *Advent*

The first candle of the Advent wreath is a symbol of Christ Our Hope. May the light sent from God shine in the darkness to show us the way of salvation.

TO VIEW WORSHIP at 8:00 & 10:00 AM or LATER
Go to www.lillianmc.org, and click on Worship.

TO RECEIVE WEEKLY EMAIL UPDATES & TO PLACE SOMEONE ON THE PRAYER LIST, EMAIL THE OFFICE.

December 3, 2023

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

*** INVITATION TO HOLY COMMUNION** Pg. 730

*** HYMN #163** "Come Thou Long-Expected Jesus"

*** HYMN #881** The Apostles' Creed

*** SCRIPTURE** Isaiah 35:1-10

The desert and the parched land will be glad; the wilderness will rejoice and blossom. Like the crocus, it will burst into bloom; it will rejoice greatly and shout for joy. The glory of Lebanon will be given to it, the splendor of Carmel and Sharon; they will see the glory of the Lord, the splendor of our God. Strengthen the feeble hands, steady the knees that give way; say to those with fearful hearts, "Be strong, do not fear; your God will come, He will come with vengeance; with divine retribution He will come to save you". Then will the eyes of the blind be opened and the ears of the deaf unstopped. Then will the lame leap like a deer, and the mute tongue shout for joy. Water will gush forth in the wilderness and streams in the desert. The burning sand will become a pool, the thirsty ground bubbling springs. In the haunts where jackals once lay, grass and reeds and papyrus will grow. And a highway will be there; it will be called the Way of Holiness; it will be for those who walk on that Way. The unclean will not journey on it; wicked fools will not go about on it. No lion will be there, nor any ravenous beast; they will not be found there. Only the redeemed will walk there, and those the Lord has rescued will return. They will enter Zion with singing; everlasting joy will crown their heads. Gladness and joy will overtake them, and sorrow and sighing will flee away.

SPECIAL MUSIC

HYMN #162 "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel"

PASTORAL PRAYER

SERMON Receiving Christmas Hope

*** THE GREAT THANKSGIVING** Pg. 731

*** HYMN #192** "O Little Town of Bethlehem"

*** BENEDICTION** "Emanuel, Emanuel"

Emmanuel, Emmanuel, His name is called Emmanuel.
God with us, revealed in us, His name is called Emmanuel.

* Please Stand, If Able.

WELCOME VISITORS

Thank you for joining us for worship today! We pray you feel the love of Christ throughout the service. Please complete a Welcome Card located in the pews and give it to the pastor after the service. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Pastor Daniel at 251-234-1122 or DanielWRandall@gmail.com.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

4 Fred Chandler
5 Lois Russell

4 Jim Merryfield
7 Perry Cunningham

5 Mickey Hudson
9 Bruce Clements

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

4 Garnet & Al Eubanks

7 Faith & Craig McCormick

THIS WEEK'S SCHEDULE

Sunday, December 3

8:00 AM **Worship** 9:00 AM **Sunday School**
10:00 AM **Worship, Children's Church & Nursery**
for Children Birth to 2nd Grade Only

Monday, December 4

11:00 AM **Women's Christmas Brunch** All women are asked to bring a brunch dish, a Secret Santa gift around \$10 and wear an Ugly Sweater (if you have one) or festive colors. All women are welcome. Guest Speaker: Rebecca Morris, Embrace AL Kid's
5:30 PM **Men's Christmas Supper** Come enjoy a wonderful time of food and fellowship. We will finalize our missions support for 2024. Guest Speaker: Robert Wingerter, Helping Hands

Tuesday, December 5 (Bulletin Information Deadline)

1:00 PM **Ageless Grace, Brain Fitness**
(Sharyon Miller, Certified Educator 850-221-8630)
7:00 PM **ALANON**

Wednesday, December 6 (Gospel of John Study will resume January 3, 2024.)

7:30 AM **Men's Prayer**
1:30 PM **Wrapping Gifts** in the fellowship hall for Breakfast with Santa
5:30 PM **Choir Practice**

Thursday, December 7

10:00 AM **Ageless Grace, Brain Fitness**
11:30 AM **Christmas Caroling to the Homebound**

Friday, December 8

9:30 AM **Prayer Shawl Ministry**

Saturday, December 9

1:00 PM **Lillian Christmas Parade**